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Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

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5.) 21st Century Sailor bi-weekly roll-up:

Every other week, we roll up the latest news from the 21st Century Sailor office. Below are the latest:

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- DoD Delays Full Rollout of New Child Care Portal [\[LINK\]](#)
- Getting Out of the Navy [\[LINK\]](#)
- Got Unused Prescription Drugs? [\[LINK\]](#)

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or find it online at www.navy.mil/cnp

1.) CNP Speaks with Sailors in Newport about Rating Modernization and Sailor 2025 / 25 OCT 16 [\[LINK\]](#)

Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Today, Chief of Personnel, Vice Adm. Robert Burke and Master Chief April Beldo, spoke with Sailors at the Naval Leadership & Ethics Center (NLEC) and the Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy (SEA) in Newport, Rhode Island.

During the visit, Burke and Beldo met with approximately 300 Sailors to discuss leadership as well as some of the Navy's recent personnel initiatives, including the enlisted rating modernization plan and Sailor 2025. Both NLEC and SEA help prepare senior Navy leaders and their spouses for roles as commanders, executive officers, command master chiefs, and senior enlisted leaders.

"There has been a lot of discussion about the Navy's rating modernization plan as well as some of our Sailor 2025 initiatives, and it is really important to me that we meet with Sailors to listen to their concerns and help explain how these changes will ultimately benefit both Sailors and the Fleet," Burke told both groups. "I've been following the conversation closely, and while we are all proud members of different tribes within the Navy - our occupations, warfare specialties, ships and squadrons - we must always remember that there is one Sailor's Creed and we are one Navy team supporting and defending our Nation. This modernization will make us more capable as individuals and a Navy."

Beldo explained how the Navy's rating modernization plan will work.

"This effort will be accomplished in six phases over the next few years, and while there are several questions that we're still working through, you will be included in the process as we go forward," she said. "Although the way we address each other has changed, make no mistake, our mission remains the same as do the bonds that unite us. There is no higher calling than to serve our nation, and we, as senior enlisted leaders must lead the deck-plate effort - as we always have, and always will."

Burke and Beldo also said that the Navy is modernizing its entire personnel system, focusing on empowering Sailors, modernizing policies and operating systems, and providing the right training at the right time to Sailors.

"We call that effort Sailor 2025," Burke said. "While the Navy is in very good shape people-wise with recruiting, retention and fit/fill, we are at a strategic cross-road where we are thinking about how we will recruit and retain the force of tomorrow. Sailor 2025 is a roadmap for us to do just that and is a living, breathing, evolving set of initiatives aimed at modernizing our entire approach to personnel programs - everything from how we manage assignments, promotions and pays to how we train our sailors and make our sailors more resilient throughout life."

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnp/.

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

2.) The Navy's Woodland Cammies: The Roll-Out Plan & How to Wear Them Right / 23 OCT 16

NAVY TIMES, Mark D. Faram

It's time to officially start going green.

The woodland digital cammies became the Navy's standard uniform in October as the service dumps the blue-and-gray cammies and shifts every sailor to a combat utility uniform for the first time.

The green-and-tan Navy working uniform, officially known as the NWU Type III, has been worn for six years by expeditionary sailors.

Donning the green cammies seemed universally popular on the decks of the amphibious assault ship Iwo Jima. More than half-a-dozen sailors who spoke to Navy Times about the shift said they preferred the appearance and comfort of these green duds over the "blueberries" that will be phased out by 2020.

"It's a change of color really, but I think it's pretty awesome," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Jose Menjivar, who is an aviation boatswain's mate. "I had a chance to wear the uniform, it's pretty comfortable. The boots especially, there is a lot more cushion and they are better for your feet."

A Seabee leader said it was great that the rest of the force was adopting this uniform.

"For me, personally it's a service thing now to wear this uniform," said Master Chief Petty Officer (SCW/FMF/SW/MTS) Corey Heinrich, the top enlisted sailor of the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command's headquarters. "And as for identity, the Bees will always have their badge on the pocket — and other commands have unit identity through other patches and ball caps. Now, it's really a Navy thing and a great uniform for everyone to wear."

"The transition from the NWU Type I to the Type III will eliminate one of the Navy's three camouflage patterns and ultimately improve uniformity among the force," said CNP spokeswoman Sharon Anderson. "We continue to review the seabag in an effort to streamline it."

The shift to the more comfortable uniform comes with some differences. Heinrich and another Seabee master chief offer some tips on how to wear this uniform right. Here's what you need to know about your new working uniform:

1. Coming soon. Another big uniform shift has begun.

Every enlisted will be given money to purchase new sets of the woodland cammies. Recruits will start being issued them at boot camp.

Those in the expeditionary forces who now wear the green-and-tans may have to turn them in if they're organizational clothing, which is tracked separately from the apparel issued to sailors. By Oct. 1, 2019, sailors will no longer be permitted to wear the blue cammies.

"Sailors issued the NWU Type III components as organizational clothing are required to return issued items prior to the mandatory wear date of 1 October 2019," Vice Adm. Robert Burke wrote in NAVADMIN 174/16, which announced these changes in August. "Commands shall continue to provide NWU Type III components as organizational clothing for wear in environments that result in premature wear or damage of sea bag issued uniform clothing."

In some cases, sailors wearing organizational sets of the greens can continue wearing them until they wear out, officials confirmed.

"Navy is going as far as they can to smooth transition for people already wearing the uniform," said Heinrich of NECC. "It was great to see them take a common sense approach to the transition."

2. Filling your seabag. The Navy is now ramping up procurement to have these in uniform stores around the world.

Before the fleet roll-out, Recruit Training Center Great Lakes, Illinois will begin to issue the woodland utilities to recruits, as will Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island; officials expect that to begin in October 2017.

“During this time, production rates will increase in order to support an expanded roll-out,” said Kristine Sturkie, spokeswoman for the Navy Exchange Service Command. “Roll-out in early fiscal year 2018 will likely target fleet concentration areas first as inventories will allow, but at this juncture, we cannot confirm that Norfolk and San Diego will be the initial outfitting sites.”

As production ramps up, she said, “we’ll be able to determine the roll out plan to specific regions.”

The size of the initial roll-out is still being worked out. One proposal would require every sailor to have two sets of the green cammies, but that’s based on decisions about fleet uniforms. Fleet Forces Command is in the process of developing a flame-resistant underway uniform intended to replace the uncomfortable Flame Resistant Variant coveralls. Options include a flight suit-style uniform or better designed coveralls, either of which could phase out the poly-cotton utility coveralls still issued.

Given these uncertainties, officials are still working out the make-up of the seabag for 2019 and beyond.

3. Paying for it. These duds aren’t coming cheap.

Giving 436,000 active-duty and reserve sailors at least one set of a utility uniform that costs more than \$100 is an expensive proposition. Indeed, Navy officials told Navy Times in August that they expect the effort will cost around \$180 million over five years.

That includes funds to plus-up sailors’ uniform allowances in fiscal years 2018 and 2019. Don’t expect to see the massive allowance increases seen when the Navy adopted the blue NWUs a decade ago. Officials say to expect a small increase, the exact figure of which won’t be known until early 2017.

The service is allowing sailors to wear some blue NWU components with the woodland cammies — black fleece, socks and existing boots — so you won’t see any additional money for those items.

Who’s paying depends on what’s on your insignia tab.

Chiefs, petty officers and seamen will get an allowance to purchase the required sets and new accessories for them.

4. Design differences. Many sailors are excited to don the green cammies. The switch from the blue NWU Type I to greens should be simple for most, since the manner of wear and wear rules are the same. (The desert digital cammies, known as the NWU Type II, are only worn by those assigned to Naval Special Warfare.)

“The fit of the uniform is extremely comfortable,” he said in a recent interview at NECC in Virginia Beach, Virginia. “There’s integrated patches in the knees and elbow areas and the cut allows for a natural bend, no binding.

“This is a huge one that sailors will love. And of course, the material is a lighter and much more breathable, making it comfortable in high-heat environments — way more bearable than the Type Is.”

One big difference is the “mandarin” collar.

"The Type III is designed with a Velcro closing on the collar when in body armor and must be stowed properly when not in use," he said. "It's easy to do, but something that must be learned."

And speaking of collars — your rank insignia is no longer on them. That's now worn on a Velcro tab in the center of the chest.

"It's a lot simpler — but some sailors will take the [insignia] sleeve off to wash their uniforms and forget to put it back on," he said. "That leads to some of them showing up to work without them. It's actually fairly common and we have to remind them of the oversight."

5. Wearing it right. That starts with a big don't: No starching.

Using starch will degrade the fabric. Sailors can iron it using a warm-steam iron, but it's designed not to need pressing. Heinrich offered one trick to make them look good without ironing.

"I recommend to all my sailors, if they want a more professional, cleaned pressed look to pull them out of the dryer while it's still spinning and immediately hang them up — don't let them sit," he said. "It may seem like a small thing, but it makes a lot of difference."

Rolling the sleeves is easy with the woodland cammies, said another Seabee master chief on the NECC staff.

"To get a good looking roll, keep your first fold no farther than the midpoint of your [sleeve] pocket and each fold after under three inches to allow the last fold to completely cover the inside-out portion," said Master Chief (SCW) Todd Bernashe.

Then again, you may not need to do this since the woodland cammies are more breathable than the blue NWUs.

"I do believe many sailors, when given the option, choose not to roll their sleeves due to the thinner material of the uniform," he added.

6. Headgear. Sailors have three options for headgear, based on their command.

There's the eight-point covers originally designed for the uniform. Then the blue command ball caps, which were OK'd two years ago in response to sailor demands.

And then there's the "coyote brown" ball caps that were authorized earlier this year with the desert and woodland NWUs.

"Across the expeditionary forces, commands are embracing the ball cap — as we go around to commands, we're seeing them more and more," Heinrich said.

The roll-out of the woodland cammies opens the door for commands to wear the blue or brown ball caps.

This opens the door for ships to have both blue and brown ball caps if they so choose.

"We authorized the coyote brown [ball cap] about a year ago to really allow those in the expeditionary combat community that flexibility, but we also authorized the blue ball cap with the Type IIIs," Burke, the chief of naval personnel, said in August. "We're sensitive to how much sailors love their ball caps. What color a command uses will be the commander's discretion."

7. Footwear. For most of the fleet, the existing black boots will be the standard footwear worn with the woodland cammies. To be sure, that's one of the three authorized options.

Most common is the NWU boot, a nine-inch, steel-toed smooth leather boot with oil resistant rubber outsoles and speed-lace eyelet closures.

But those whose primary duties are on the flight line and flight deck can wear the flight deck boot — an eight-inch, leather boot with a FOD outsole steel toe.

And commands can allow sailors to wear the tan or coyote brown boots with the woodland cammies.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson has championed a new, revised boot and development is underway.

By and large, sailors love the tan, rough-side out boot, according to Bernashe — but it needs some sailor TLC.

"To best care for boots worn by expeditionary sailors, I would recommend that sailors consider rotating their boots often, especially during initial break in," Bernashe said. "Best method for removing stains is to apply dish soap to a good quality nylon scrub brush and lightly remove the debris from the boots."

8. More clothing money. With new crackerjack blues and whites on the horizon for men and women, sailors will see a few plus-ups in their annual clothing allowances in the coming year.

What the seabag requirement will be for the woodland cammies is still being figured out. Currently, sailors must have three sets of the blue-and-grays. With the possibility of a new fire-retardant shipboard uniform, the final seabag could feature fewer sets of cammies.

Sailors are paid annually a pro-rated amount of the replacement for each seabag item once it's in the fleet.

"When a new uniform item is issued at Boot Camp, sailors will begin to see a plus up for the purchase amount of new items on the anniversary month of their service," Anderson said.

"For example, female E-6 and below sailors will receive one-third of the cost of the new Service Dress Blue uniform this year and will have obtained the full cost to purchase the uniform by the mandatory wear date in October of 2019."

3.) Enlisted Women in Submarines Road Shows Hit Fleet Concentration Areas / 27 OCT 16 [\[LINK\]](#)

Submarine Group 10 Public Affairs

KINGS BAY, Ga. (NNS) -- Following the announcement of the opening of the third application window for enlisted women in submarines, the Enlisted Women in Submarines (EWIS) Task Force began their roadshow circuit to provide informational briefs for command career counselors and female enlisted Sailors interested in learning more about opportunities to apply to become a submariner. Below is a schedule of roadshow events:

Navy Region Southeast: 8-9 November

- NAS Jacksonville

Date: Nov.8

Time: 1300-1430

Location: Religious Education Center (Bldg 749)

-Naval Station Mayport

Date: Nov.9
Time: 1245-1415 and 1430-1600
Location: ATG Auditorium

Pacific Northwest: 14-16 November

- Naval Base Kitsap

Date: Nov. 14

Time: 0900-1000

Location: NOSC Bremerton Auditorium (Bldg 1013)

Date: Nov. 14

Time: 1430-1530

Location: Off Crew Bldg 2100, Room #103/104

- Naval Air Station Whidbey Island

Date: Nov. 15

Time: 0900-1000 and 1200-1300

Location: NOSC Bldg 2739 Room 120

- Naval Station Everett

Date: Nov. 16

Time: 0900-1000 and 1200-1300

Location: Bldg 2000 Auditorium

San Diego: 17 November

- Naval Air Station North Island

Date: Nov. 17

Time: 0900-1100

Location: CNAP Auditorium (Bldg 8C)

- Naval Base San Diego

Date: Nov. 17

Time: 1300-1500

Location: Career Information Center (Bldg 3416)

The recruitment for this cycle of applicants comes on the heels of successful integration of female officers and senior enlisted Sailors onboard submarines that started in 2010.

In January 2013, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta rescinded the 1994 Direct Combat Exclusion act which restricted women from serving onboard submarines.

Naval Administrative message 19/15 entitled, "Opening Submarine Force Billets to Enlisted Women," detailed the enlisted women integration plan and was formally approved in December 2014 for federal funding by Congress.

This year, [NAVADMIN message 196/16](#) detailed requirements for female Sailors interested in applying.

Female Sailors in ranks Seaman Recruit to Senior Chief Petty Officer are eligible to apply.

Chief Petty Officer and Senior Chief Petty Officer conversions are available in:

- * C260 - Information Systems Technician (ITS)
- * C170 - Culinary Specialist (CS)
- * C220 - Logistics Specialist (LS)
- * G065 - Independent Duty Corpsman HM(IDC)

* C250 - Yeoman (YN)

Petty Officer 1st Class and below conversions are available in:

- * C130 - Fire Control Technician (FT)
- * C150/C151 - Machinist's Mate (MM) (Auxiliary or Weapons)
- * C121/C126 - Electronics Technician (ET) (Navigation or Communication)
- * C170 - Culinary Specialist (CS)
- * C220 - Logistics Specialist (LS)
- * C250 - Yeoman (YN)
- * C260 - Information Systems Technician (ITS)
- * C230 - Sonar Technician Submarines (STS)
- * C180 - Missile Technician (MT)

This cycle of conversions will be for the initial enlisted integration of USS Ohio (SSGN 726) submarine crews in Bangor, Washington in 2018.

Applications are due by April 1, 2017 and the selection process will begin in May 2017.

For more information and resources, visit Navy.mil/ewis.

4.) Navy Foreign Language Opportunities Announced / 25 OCT 16 [\[LINK\]](#)

Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) (NNS) -- The Navy Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (LREC) office is highlighting several new opportunities for Sailors looking to exercise their language skills and expand expertise across the service.

Navy is requesting four to six Sailors who will participate in the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center standard setting panel for the German language. This panel will be held Nov. 1-4 in Crystal City, Virginia.

Navy applicants must meet criteria of being active duty, achieved an Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) score of level three in English, and are current within two years for a Defense Language Proficiency Test or over the phone interview score of three and above in German.

"These panels are important for developing the standards by which language is tested across the services," said Master Chief Petty Officer Kenneth Paulsen, Navy LREC Office. "Sailors would help review each test question and make a recommendation on how difficult they would be for a non-native speaker, essentially giving the test the accuracy that will help develop the best language professionals we need."

The Defense Language Institute will pay TDY expenses for qualified service members. Participation in the standard-setting study is on a first-come-first-served basis.

Please send your recommendations and requests to Master Chief Kenneth Paulsen, Kenneth.paulsen@navy.mil.

The LREC office is also making sure the fleet knows about four new web-based Defense Language Proficiency Tests (DLPT5) in the Sudanese, Urdu, Vietnamese and Swahili languages.

The web-version for the DLPT5 Lower Range Multiple Choice Test (MCT) in Sudanese will be released Oct. 24, while the Urdu version will be released Nov. 7. For Swahili and Vietnamese, those tests will be available starting

Nov. 1 through Jan. 31, 2017. WBFT uses a data-collection interface that is designed and delivered by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) through its secure web-delivery environment.

Regardless of the individual's eligibility for Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus, foreign language testing is beneficial. The American Council on Education (ACE) recommends college credits for certain languages based on proficiency levels achieved on the Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT). Details are available via your local Navy College Office.

Enlisted Sailors who attain scores of L1+/R1+ or better via DLPT (S1+ or better via oral proficiency interview) also earn a Navy Enlisted Classification Code (NEC) to document the language skills in their personnel records.

Participants will be able to request and receive a certificate of appreciation signed by the Assistant Commandant of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC). Participating Command Language Program Managers (CLPM) will be recognized for their contributions at the annual CLPM conferences sponsored by DLIFLC.

Sailors interested in taking any of these language tests must schedule a testing time through their local DLPT testing center.

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

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